OCCUPY SYDNEY Zine

Issue 12
06/07/12

Table of Contents

Welcome & Feedback 2
Signs for Change.....3
NAB v's The Farmers..... 4-8
Corporate Greed 9
Free School 7/7/12 10-11
Advertising in Schools–Coles and Woolworths Duopoly 12-13
Justice for George 14
Messages of Support.....15
1116–Occupy Sydney Policing.....16
Occupy Court Dates & OCMS...17
Hand signals.....18
American Autumn–an Occudoc....19
Lizards Revenge 20
Donate to Legals & Podcast.....21
Found Not guilty.....22
Calendar 23

Welcome

Welcome to our twelfth issue of Occupy Sydney Zine!

Occupy Friday knitting circle with Eva (rug up).

Saturday Free School will be a fun day of making an Occupy Collage & exploring extreme mediation & on Mondays join #DocsBusters http://docsbusters.org/

This is *your* platform to share & show what Occupy Sydney means to you. The submissions in this zine are the opinions of individual Occupiers. All copy rights & ownership remain with these individuals.

If you are running your own Occupy Event or maintaining your own Occupation please let us know about it. Send photos, report backs & event details to OccupySydneyZine@gmail.com

Please feel welcome to contribute & add *your* voice & views.

It is only when we share in the commons do we bond as a community, so let us all share in the commons of the people's media & discover what we can create together.

Online version & back issues http://www.scribd.com/occupysydneyzine

A big thank you to Katie, Hugo, Wenny, Pathi, Allan, Nicky, Liam, Matt & Maloë for your articles, report backs, websites, photos and images. I am so very grateful to work on this project with your talents!

Much Love & Support xx Bern

Your Submissions & Feedback

Please put "Submission", "Feedback" or "Subscription" in the subject heading & submit your contributions by Wednesdays to OccupySydneyZine@gmail.com

so it can be ready for printing by Occupy Fridays

Photo from singsforchange.tumblr.com by Bern Ellis

The NAB vs The Farmers

– Update June 2012

July 1st, 2012 · Katie

The last few months have seen a few changes in the court case against the 3rd generation farming family from Walgett.

* Notices of Possession against their property were placed in trees on a public road, without even an envelope with their name/address etc. Just paperwork shoved into trees. Even though their letterbox was only 20m down the road, and very obvious.. These documents show *exactly* how much this family owes, plus all their personal details etc

* The Office of Indigenous affairs rejected the proposal, loosing one less opportunity for them, and a countless opportunities for the local Indigenous community.

* I travelled out to see them, to record details and to learn how it feels to live in one of the most isolated area's of New South Wales.

Video: The Farmers vs The Bank

http://youtu.be/400RBOgAacs

This video is such a small part of what they are going through, and the despicable tricks they are being forced to contend with. In the coming days, more information will come to hand, and we will keep you updated.

If you missed the beginning of this story, read on :

NAB treats 3rd generation farmers like 2nd rate citizens, whilst supporting "2012 – Year of the Farmer" – Update

April 10th, 2012 · Katie ·

It all started with a request for my email address from a good friend who lives out in Dubbo. Said he had information for me about a local family that was being screwed by the NAB. A few hours later, 5 emails came

Continued ...

through, and one by one described the awful situation that a brother and sister were facing.

Claire and her brother Chris are 3rd generation farmers, on a property that has been in their families hands for over 100 years. Their property is a mix of cattle, wheat and cotton farming, surrounded by pristine nature, and bordered by the Macquarie and Barwon rivers, in the North West of NSW. This is their home. Now all of this is about to taken away from them. Surviving 9 years of drought, this is a family who couldn't be destroyed by Mother Nature's worst but now they find themselves about to be evicted by parasitic, immoral, impatient bankers from National Australia Bank.

In a time where most loans are around the 7-12% mark, NAB has made millions from the percentage gap on what we pay, compared to what they pay for the money – especially in this post GFC world, whereby banks can practically steal the money from the Reserve Bank, both here and the US Federal Reserve.

Yet, the opportunity to make even more money is always so very temping, and thus when the farmers came to them to assist, and at a time where there was the best opportunity to trade out of debt came from the sky in early 2010, when the Boxing Day 2009 rains finally broke the drought, they couldn't help but take full advantage of the situation.

The rains gave these farmers, who provide our entire state with food, who have been struggling for so many years, an incredible climatic opportunity to address the debt bought about by nine years of drought. But the NAB told them to sell the farms without a crop in the ground or deal with the default rate of their 18% interest loan as they refused to advance anymore finance to grow crops when the drought broke 18%! Most credit cards aren't that high these days. And this is after 9 years of drought, and a flood.

Because Claire and Chris refused to sell up before taking advantage of the best

agribusiness

nab it.

season to trade out of debt, they went ahead and sowed the 2010 wheat crop. They were then served with Farm Debt Mediation that forced unreasonable obligations on them that did not take into consideration a Natural Disaster, because of this they breached their Farm Debt Mediation agreement (one clause being to repay $1million to the NAB by January 2011 based on the 2010 wheat crop). With help from local people they got by, and managed to not have to sell the farm in early 2010, they sowed the 2010 wheat crop which proved their viability by growing an 18,000 tonne (about $5million) wheat crop only to see it destroyed by the November 2010 floods.

If the NAB had assisted them to use the abundance of water that had returned to the Macquarie river because of the incredible season in 2010 they would have been able to use this income to make up for the loss of the 2010 wheat crop, however the NAB refused to maintain the farms, and in the same year the NAB assisted Cubby Station to grow cotton when it was in administration. At the time the NAB called in Chris and Claire's loan. They were told they had 49% equity but it was of no use to them as they could not get finance to continue to grow crops. Refinancing was made impossible because it appears that once the NAB eliminates you and Farm Debt Mediation is served, other financiers are reluctant to assist, especially when credit was near impossible due to the GFC.

They were never in the financial crisis Cubby Station was in, yet they were crucified and blocked by the NAB of having any hope of running the land profitably as the NAB did for Cubby Station in 2010.

More take, less give.

All options are being investigated to fix this situation, reluctantly they put the farms up for sale by auction on November 17, 2011 to show the NAB they had tried, they failed to sell and now the NAB are seeking possession. Usually a farmer is given the chance to sell again in six months and keep the farms running and using every environmental opportunity possible to bring income in until it is sold satisfactorily, but not in this case. Investors have been and are being sought; a community and equity partnership with the Aboriginal

Continued ...

Community of Brewarrina and Walgett was very well received by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (who is conducting a feasibility study) and the NAB initially.

Cameron Clyne is the NAB CEO who is at the forefront of NAB Reconciliation Action Plan, and Glenn Brennan NAB Indigenous Affairs Manager, however, both seem to be full of talk and no action. This isn't about not wanting to pay the money back. This is about being a farmer at the mercy of Mother Nature, and now of this prestitute bank, ironically being a main supporter of "2012 – Australian Year of the Farmer", and making over $1.4billion profit in Q2 (Oct-Dec 2011) + record profits in 2011 – is unable to wait for the study to be completed (End April) and has given an earliest date of eviction of the 12th April.

The NAB has shown their determination in this matter, without a thought for the big picture. To not even wait 12 months for a full cycle of growth. To not even wait while the head of the family, their father, Gordon Priestley lay dying in hospital whilst they were also isolated again in the February 2012 floods. The NAB were requested twice to defer the Supreme Court proceedings as it was impossible for Chris and Claire to file a defence due to Chris being isolated on the farm due to the floods and Claire caring for her father in Dubbo and then Brewarrina Hospital where he passed away on February 19, 2012. They were also told that the DEEWR feasibility study into their Aboriginal proposal needed time to be completed by end of April, but they were told that the debt is out of control and the interest is accumulating too much and that Aboriginal projects take too much time, however they did not mention that the NAB are in a partnership with Indigenous Business Australia the main funding body for such projects..

And so while the NAB continued its relentless pursuit, they left their father in hospital to meet with a solicitor to see if he would represent them on February 20. Their father passed away while they were trying to get legal help, yet bravely, only the next day they attended court in Sydney where the Louis-Vuitton clad lawyer for NAB still showed no mercy, all the while her high-end labels cloaking the heartless corporation that lives beneath and clocking up legal fees Chris and Claire

Priestley will have to pay. In addition to this, they have been trying to get Centrelink to assist them for living costs as when they asked the NAB for living money when their father was dying they were refused and told that the NAB had already been good to them.

This bank who promotes itself as "More Give, Less Take" is its own antithesis of what it promotes.

It's time to truly understand and appreciate the integral work that our farmers do, and the challenges they face. The NAB claims this family has broken their contract, yet at the same time, the NAB is blatantly breaching the Banking Code of Conduct.

OccupySydney supports the family, and will be soon holding an action directed at NAB, plus court solidarity for this family against the merciless, heartless, relentless pursuit of the almighty dollar at the expense of the independent farming families of Australia. We welcome you all to join us, to show that people can make a difference when we work towards a common goal. Stay tuned for specifics

Katie Sheppard for occupysydney.org.au

UPDATE – May 2012: Claire and Chris have made 3 additional trips to Sydney in the last month, in order to meet with solicitors, and barristers – however, the bank will not let up, and possession of their property is seeming imminent. They have one more option available to them within the current court proceedings, which could occur as quickly as 7 days away. Although, the sooner the proceedings, the sooner the possession could take place if they find themselves unsuccessful.

Add to this, the fact that even though Centrelink assistance was applied for in February, they are yet to receive any financial help from the very Government Department that is meant to help Aussies in their time of need. And with each drive to/from Sydney, they are spending money that they just don't have.

Please share this information around, we are trying to raise more awareness of their plight, as they are one of thousands of farming families facing corrupt banks, loss of their family properties and potential homelessness.

CAM OTTAWA CITIZEN
WALL ST
CALL ME NERVOUS, BUT I'M JUST STARTING TO WORRY A LITTLE ABOUT THIS 'OCCUPY WALL STREET' THING...
END CORPORATE GREED

Submitted by Liam

Occupy Sydney

FREE SCHOOL

Saturday 7 July 2012

56a Martin Place (near Macquarie St.)

1:00 pm Occupy Collage with Bern and Pathi

2:00 pm Break Hanging n Snack

2:30 pm Extreme Meditation

occupysydneyfreeschool@gmail.com

Occupy Collage - Find meaning with pictures and words that inspire you. Don´t let your newspapers yellow! Bring them along with any magazines you have and tear and snip your way to a patchwork of surprising ideas.

There´s no time to pause in creative or political action, so rip it out! Go on, the local rag will never seem so boring!

Extreme Meditation - Want to ponder life´s questions? This workshop won´t help you, well, not directly! Experience meditation on the street: feel it fill your mind space with something new.

Come and explore different practices that expand traditional beliefs on meditation. Learn how you can incorporate meditation into your daily activities: you know, on the train, at work and maybe even at a riot!

To outline the context of this letter, I am on a campaign to stop advertising campaigns in our schools. I wrote an open letter response to some pro-Coles parents at my children's preschool who had left me a large document to outline how much Coles had given the community. This was my response:

Thank you for your research into Coles. But, you need to remember that Wesfarmers (Owner of Coles) is all about the bottom line or profit. When a company gives to a community it is for advertising purposes. The Coles Sports for School is cheap advertising for them. Coles are paying us in sweatshop produced, cost price, sport goods that they value at full RRP for priceless billboard advertising on our school gates and in our school classrooms. We are also being advertised when school ask for or when we count the vouchers. As a parent, I would like to have a say in what my child is subject to within a learning environment.

We must remember, that this is a very clever market poly by the supermarkets to be endorsed by the schools. We are getting a bad deal.

Why I am I aggravated by the Coles Sports Vouchers? Where do I start? I send my oldest child to a primary school in Sydney, and my child had told me about her class counting vouchers in lessons, then to add insult to injury the parents were asked in for two hours on a Saturday morning to process vouchers? My time on a Saturday with my children is worth more than a few cheap books or soccer balls.

Let’s put this in perspective… Do you think the military have a bake sale to get new missiles for their boats, why is our education being sold to advertisers? How long before Coke and MacDonald’s are advertising in our schools? Oh hang on… MacDonald’s have already advertised in our schools… so now can we sue them for our kids being fat?

Coles and Woolworths Duopoly

FACTS

- Coles and Woolworths have 80% of ALL the supermarket sales. This is one of the biggest duopoly concentrations of grocery markets in the world.

- In 2010 alone Coles/Woolies took home $94.3billion of the $242billion spent in all shops.

- Coles in 2011 generated $1.6 billion in profit. They back give PEANUTS to the community; they are wiping out our farmers, and our milk industry. When they are done destroying farming they will turn all our farmland into mines. Oh yes! Wesfarmer is a mining company too. And we will be buying our produce from god knows where? if we can afford it.

- Lets talk about the monetary exchange in this advertising offer, in the 2011 'Coles Sports for Schools' program, for a school to get a Spalding TF-150 basketball, which retails for $19.95 in Australian stores, requires 280 points, or a total spend of $2800. This equates to 18.5 families doing a $150 weekly shop, or 14 families doing a large $200 weekly shop, or 28 families doing a small weekly shop. BAD DEAL!

As parents all we are trying to do is to create an alternative to corporate companies advertising in our schools. These companies are taking us for Fools!

THANKS FOR TAKING TIME TO READ ABOUT ADVERTISING TO OUR KIDS.

'Concerned Parent and Occupier'

Justice for George

From the Blog - http://justiceforgeorge.wordpress.com/

Video - http://youtu.be/JECbNBMSjB8

Eviction update

Posted on June 27, 2012

At a little after 9a.m. June 27th when the media were not present and the powerful video of Police and Sheriffs not taken by media for all the world to see, Government officials entered Georges Lancaster Rd home. They told him that he was being taken to hospital “for his own good.”

Georges basic instinct has always been to trust the system and its servants and he went co-operatively if not willingly according to eyewitnesses. What George probably does not understand is that he was evicted – removed from his home. Through no fault of his own George will lose the home and assets he worked all his life for –If we stand back and do nothing.

This is the home which George bought and extended with his vision his will and the capital he worked for -with his own hands. This is the home which George expected to live in in his Golden years. And he planned well-if you believe in the system-he did exactly what the system says you should do. Other investment properties and a healthy bank balance would have provided him with support and anything he desired in retirement.

Today that vision of Golden Years turned to mud as those George should have been able to trust to protest his interests instead evicted him to protect the banks interest.

How can a person who has power of attorney so easily take for himself all the assets of the person he is hired to manage those assets for without committing a criminal offence?? …there are many hows and we, along with Georges families want answers.

Continued from Issue 11

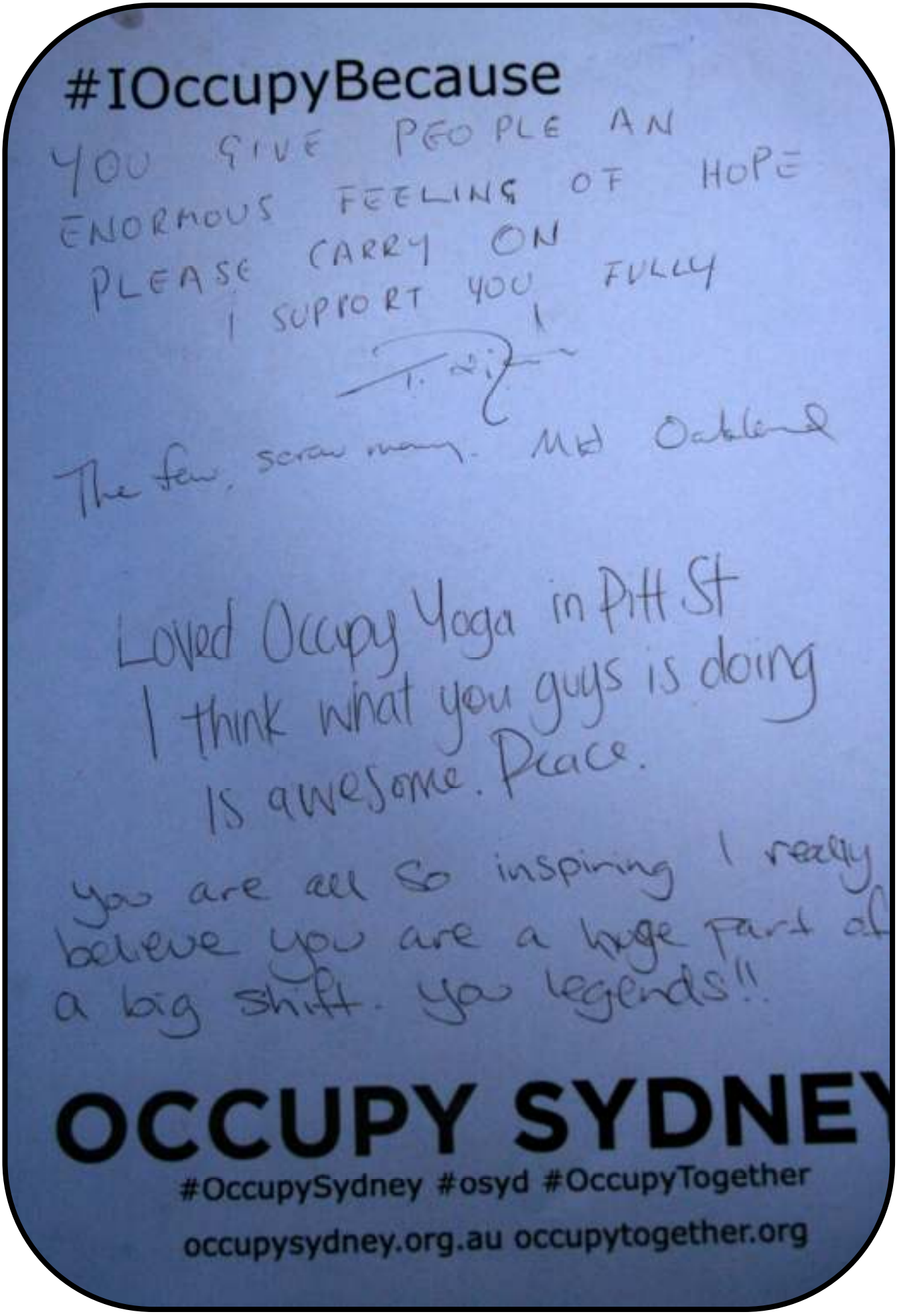
#IOccupyBecause
YOU GIVE PEOPLE AN ENORMOUS FEELING OF HOPE
PLEASE CARRY ON
I SUPPORT YOU FULLY
The few, scrap many. MH Oakland
Loved Occupy Yoga in Pitt St
I think what you guys is doing
is awesome. Peace.
you are all so inspiring I really
believe you are a huge part of
a big shift. you legends!!
OCCUPY SYDNEY
#OccupySydney #osyd #OccupyTogether
occupysydney.org.au occupytogether.org

Photo from messagesofsupport.tumblr.com by Bern Ellis

1116—Police and Emergency Services—

OCCUPY SYDNEY POLICING

Mr Shoebridge to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

Who has been in charge of managing and overseeing the policing of Occupy Sydney?

Who is presently in charge of managing and overseeing the policing of Occupy Sydney?

How much has been spent on the policing of Occupy Sydney to date?

What is the total number of arrest in relation to Occupy Sydney to date?

What is the total number of charges issued in relation to Occupy Sydney to date?

How many people have had charges issued against them in relation to Occupy Sydney to date?

What is the total number of fines issued in relation to Occupy Sydney to date?

What is the total number of convictions recorded in the courts in relation to Occupy Sydney to date?

On how many occassions has property been siezed from the Occupy Sydney site to date?

What property has been siezed?

What records are kept of such seizures?

What procedures are followed with regards to seized property?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that, as at **28 February 2012:**

The Central Metropolitan Region Commander, Assistant Commissioner Mark Murdoch, has responsibility for all policing operations in the Region. Since October 2011, this has included those related to the Occupy Sydney protest.

we've been told million$

Approximately $78,123 in addition to normal police salaries.

54.

68.

35.

44.

Court outcomes are a matter for the Attorney General.

21.

Police records indicate that a number of property items have been seized including tables, shelving, banners, flags, mannequins and sheeting.

Any property of value or property where a person has claimed ownership is recorded on the Exhibits, Forensic Information and Miscellaneous Property System according to Standard Operating Instructions.

Any property seized by police is returned to the police station and recorded as above. A person then has 28 days in which to claim the property. If not claimed within 28 days, the property is destroyed. Property with no evident value that is considered rubbish or has not been claimed by any person at the time of seizure is disposed of.

Future Occupy the Court dates @ the Downing Centre

- **Thurs 19th July:** Lily's staying overnight hearing continued + next court date for the Federal Court case (@ the Federal Court)

- **Fri 27th July:** Next court date for the 19 people in the Group

The OCCUPY Content Management System (OCMS) @ occupytheuniverse.net

Learn

Education is a powerful tool for altering human belief systems and thus behaviour. It requires an organised system of information delivery and mechanisms whereby participation in the resultant evolving communities is facilitated. Comprehensive introduction to a variety of subjects is provided.

Occupy

In depth content covers the philosophy, structure, and activities of OCCUPY. For example, one significant role is, "the facilitation of community building through education".

Interact

OCCUPY facilitates the creation of new ways of doing things and new ways of being responsible for the wellbeing and sustainability of both local and global communities. This is not easily done in isolation, but rather, gathers strength through interaction with others. It is a process that empowers each participant through the discovery that similar concerns are shared world-wide throughout many different communities.

Discuss

Participation in learning and interaction develops community identity. Through discussion, proposals for action can be clarified and activities understood.

Collaborate

Identification of problems through participation in learning, interaction, and discussion, leads to the generation of proposals for solutions. Solutions take the form of consensus driven collaborations that can evolve into real-world actions.

Submitted by Allan

OCCUPY TOGETHER
HAND SIGNALS

SPEAKING

WANT TO TALK

DIRECT RESPONSE

CLARIFY

POINT OF ORDER

FEELING

AGREE

DONT AGREE

OPPOSE

BLOCK

American Autumn: an Occudoc

ABOUT THE FILM

What would a world look like that had a culture and an economic system that places human need above corporate greed, and how do we bring that world into being? Who cares what it is called. Call it Socialism, Call it Real Democracy Now, and Call it Chunky-Monkey-Cherry Garcia. The world needs to change radically, it needs to change dramatically, and it needs to change fast. American Autumn: an Occudoc is an invitation for you to participate in that positive change.

With interviews and insight from key organizers, thinkers and activists including Medea Benjamin, David Degraw, Dr. Margaret Flowers, Lee Camp, Naomi Klein, Nathan Schneider, Ashley Sanders, Vlad Teichberg, Sgt. Shamar Thomas, Dr. Cornel West, Kevin Zeese and many more, writer/ director Dennis Trainor Jr weaves commentary and a fearless style that often puts the viewer right between police and protesters.

The film includes an original score by Goldi (an OWS occupier himself and key member of Guitarmy, with additional original music created by Mike Lawrence-Yanicelli.

The legendary punk band FUGAZI supplied additional songs.

AJ Russo served as the Associate producer, co-editor, and created all of the graphics; James Russo served as sound designer.

Dennis Trainor, Jr. is currently the host of the web series of Acronym TV (on hiatus until the documentary is finished). He has been writing and producing editorial video commentary since 2007, publishing over 800 videos during that span that have garnered over 30 million views on youtube alone. He formally published under the alias “Davis Fleetwood” and while doing so was an embedded youtube personality/ media advisor on the staff of Dennis Kucinich’s 2008 Presidential campaign, giving him the distinction as the first video blogger to be employed by a Presidential candidate. American Autumn: an occudoc is his full-length field documentary.

Useful links:
www.Occudoc.org
Facebook page: Facebook.com/AmericanAutumn2011
###

Lizard's Revenge - Shut Down Roxby 14.7.2012

Wed 09 May 2012
By Flowerpower

Roxby Downs

Recently BHP Billiton announced it's proposal to expand the Olympic Dam Uranium Mine in South Australia to become the largest open pit and uranium mine in the world. Traditional owner Uncle Kevin Buzzacott and activist/ musician Izzy Brown are organizing the Lizard's Revenge. On 14th July people are gathering for three days to shut down Roxby Downs which is irreversibly poisoning the land and water, contaminating its workers and spreading its deadly export to the Fukishimas of tomorrow and to war zones in the form of Depleted Uranium. As well as blockading the Lizard Festival will include solar and wind powered cinema, Theatre, Cabaret and Art installations, and over 20 musical acts.

Sleeping underneath the ground there is an old lizard, Kalta the sleepy lizard. The lizard ain't so sleepy anymore. Stand up and boogie down at the Gates of Olympic Dam 14th July 2012

Interview with Izzy Brown about the Roxby Down expansion and Lizard's Revenge http://youtu.be/Q9cnVy4QekY

Are you able to donate to the Legals Fund ?

- to assist people with court costs and fines out of their participation in a global movement against the current economic system?

Want the latest Occupy Sydney legal news? Download the Legal Tribune - http://www.scribd.com/doc/97093128

Consider donating to the Legals Fund:
G Romuld
BSB 802396
Account number 26411222
>>> Please put "Occupy" in the transfer heading

Thank you for supporting Occupy Sydney!
www.occupysydney.org.au
OS Legal Support on facebook https://www.facebook.com/groups/343057322380372/

Email: legal@occupysydney.org.au

PodCast!

OCCUPY SYDNEY

osydpodcast.org

Occupy Sydney Podcast Episode 2:
Robbery with Violence – resource exploitation series pt 1 of 3

Link to Audio

Submitted by Wenny & Hugo

9 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GIVEN NON-CAMPING FINES,
45 PEOPLE IN TOTAL HAVE RECEIVED FINES

2 CHARGES RELATED TO GRAFFITI

4 PEOPLE CHARGED WITH ASSAULT POLICE,
3 FOR RESIST POLICE,
2 FOR HINDER POLICE,
3 FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A POLICE DIRECTION

2 CHARGES OF PUBLIC MISCHIEF.
BOTH DISMISSED

100% OF 20 CONTESTED & FINALISED MATTERS
WITHDRAWN OR FOUND
NOT GUILTY!

July 2012

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
July 30 6.30pm GA MP	July 31			June 29 Occupy Friday	June 30 Occupy Parramatta 5.30pm GA MP	July 1
2 6.30pm GA MP	3	4 6.30pm GA MP	5	6 Occupy Friday	7 Occupy Parramatta Free School 5.30pm GA MP	8
9 6.30pm GA MP	10	11 6.30pm GA MP	12	13 Occupy Friday	14 Occupy Parramatta 5.30pm GA MP	15
16 6.30pm GA MP	17	18 6.30pm GA MP	19 Occupy the Courts	20 Occupy Friday	21 Occupy Parramatta Free School 5.30pm GA MP	22
23 6.30pm GA MP	24	25 6.30pm GA MP	26	27 Occupy the Courts Occupy Friday	28 Occupy Parramatta 5.30pm GA MP	29

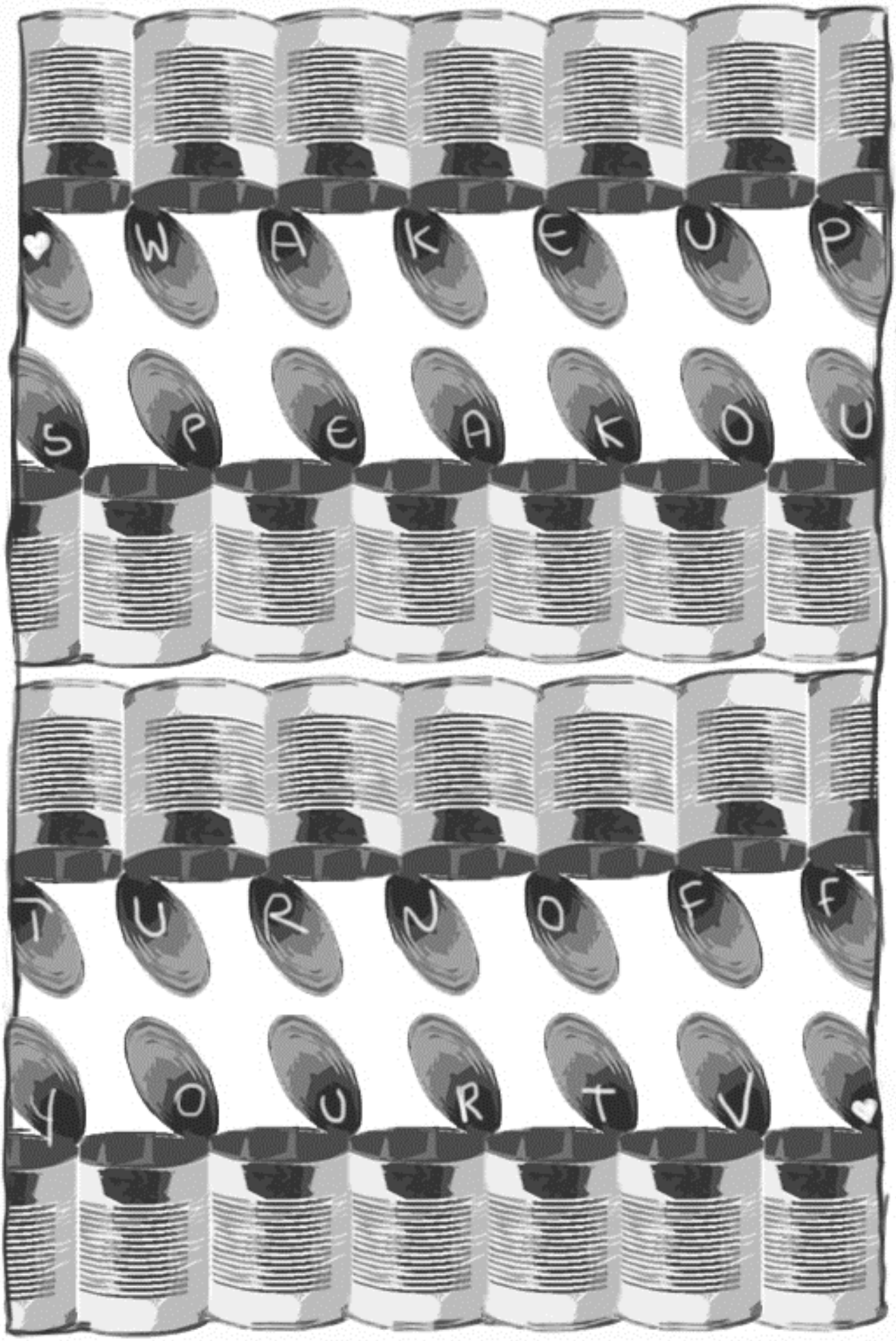

Image by Maloë Cadic